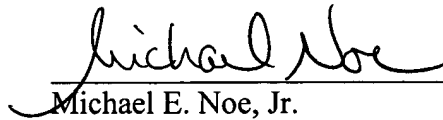


REMARKS

Applicant certainly appreciates the allowance of Claims 13, 19, and 22, and the suggestions offered by the Examiner to overcome the objections to and rejection of Claims 3 – 6, 10, and 16, respectively. Accordingly, the latter claims have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. The language of Claim 10 was added to Claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. No fee for an extension of time is required. **A check in the amount of \$400.00 for two additional independent claims is enclosed.** In the event that any other fees are required, please charge them to **Hitachi Global Storage Technologies' Deposit Account Number 50-2587.**

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Noe, Jr.

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